

## Message Text

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70

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 AGR-20 AID-20 EB-11 RSC-01

COME-00 TRSE-00 SWF-02 CEA-02 CIAE-00 FRB-03 INR-11

NSAE-00 CIEP-03 SP-03 STR-08 LAB-06 SIL-01 SAM-01

OMB-01 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 L-03 NSC-07 PA-04 PRS-01

SS-20 USIA-15 DRC-01 /194 W  
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R 261524Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY OSLO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8765

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMCONSUL HAMBURG

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS UNN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, EAGR, NO

SUBJECT: CHAVEZ, BOYCOTT AND GRAPES IN NORWAY

REF: A) COPENHAGEN 2680; B) COPENHAGEN TOFAS 170 (NOTAL)

1. IN OSLO LAST WEEK UFWA PRESIDENT CESAR CHAVEZ MET WITH TRANSPORT  
UNION LEADERS, SPOKE TO AND ANSWERED QUESTIONS FROM AN ASSEMBLY  
OF OFFICIALS FROM VARIOUS UNIONS, ADDRESSED MUNIIPAL WORKERS'

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UNION CONVENTION AND APPEARED ON TV. TRANSPORT UNION LEADERS

WARNED HIM IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT FOR THEM TO CONTINUE THE HARBOR BOYCOTT OF NON-EAGLE-MARK GRAPES AND LETTUCE UNLESS HE CAN SECURE BROADER INTERNATIONAL PARTICIPATION. CHAVEZ PERSUADED THEM TO POSTPONE DECISION WHETHER TO END BOYCOTT WHICH THEY HAD EXPECTED TO MAKE WITHIN TWO WEEKS. THEY WERE IMPRESSED BY HIS FRANKNESS AND LACK OF EXAGGERATION, PARTICULARLY HIS PRAISE OF LOCAL TEAMSTER UNION OPERATIONS OUTSIDE AGRICULTURAL FIELD, ALSO BY HIS OPTIMISM DESPITE HIS UNION'S DIFFICULTIES.

2. ON TV, CHAVEZ WAS SOFT-SPOKEN AND EFFECTIVE, PRAISING NORWEGIAN TRANSPORT UNION AS BEST (HE MIGHT HAVE SAID "ONLY," THEY AGREED LATER) IMPLEMENTER OF HARBOR BOYCOTT, MENTIONING PESTICIDES, BUT ONLY AS THREAT TO WORKERS, NOT TO CONSUMERS, AND URGING CONSUMER SUPPORT OF BOYCOTT. HE WAS WARMLY RECEIVED BY MUNICIPAL WORKERS' UNION CONVENTION, WHICH PROMISED TO SUPPORT CONSUMER BOYCOTT. (WITH NEARLY 100,000 MEMBERS, IT IS SECOND LARGEST UNION IN NORWAY, PROBABLY SOON TO BE LARGEST.)

3. GRAPE EXPORT PROMOTION TEAM (REF B) VISITED OSLO JUST BEFORE CHAVEZ VISIT AND AVOIDED PUBLICITY AND CONTROVERSY THROUGHOUT VISIT, AS RECOMMENDED TO THEM DURING STOP AT EMBASSY. SOME IMPORTERS TOLD THEM THEY WOULD CONTINUE TO IMPORT GRAPES AND WEREN'T WORRIED ABOUT BOYCOTT EFFORT, OTHERS THAT THEY WOULD NOT IMPORT GRAPES DUE TO BOYCOTT AND RELATED COMPLICATIONS.

4. COMMENT. TRANSPORT UNION SEEMS LIKELY TO DROP HARBOR BOYCOTT LATER THIS YEAR, BEFORE SHIPPING SEASON BEGINS, UNLESS SOME EXCUSE OR PRESSURE IN FORM OF ITF RECOMMENDATIONS AND EFFECTIVE PORT BOYCOTT ACTION IN SOME OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRY OCCURS. THEY ARE TIRED OF BEING LEFT HOLDING BAG, WHILE SHIPS ARE UNLOADED IN OTHER COUNTRIES AND GRAPES TRUCKED IN. THEY ARE WORRIED THAT BOYCOTT WEAPON WILL BE WEAKENED AND LOOK RIDICULOUS. THEY COULD, BUT WON'T, STOP MOST TRUCKING IN OF GRAPES, AGAIN UNLESS REALLY EFFECTIVE ACTION IS TAKEN IN OTHER COUNTRIES AS WELL. THEY WILL, OF COURSE, CONTINUE TO URGE THEIR MEMBERS AND THEIR FAMILIES NOT TO BUY NON-EAGLE-BRAND U.S. GRAPES AND LETTUCE, AS WELL OTHER NORWEGIAN

UNIONS. CHAVEZ' VISIT MAY HELP TO BRING U.S. FARM WORKERS BACK INTO NORWEGIAN CONSCIENCES AND THUS INCREASE EFFECTIVENESS OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CONSUMER GRAPE BOYCOTT THIS WINTER. NORWAY'S COOPERATIVE MARKETING CHAIN, ABOUT 10 PERCENT OF NORWAY'S RETAIL FRUIT BUSINESS, WILL CONTINUE TO HANDLE ONLY EAGLE-BRAND AS FAR AS U.S. GRAPES AND LETTUCE ARE

CONCERNED, AS WEILL NORWAY'S LARGEST PRIVATE FRUIT IMPORTER, BANAN MATHIESEN, WHICH SUPPLIES 15-20 PERCENT OF NORWAY'S GRAPES AND 20-30 PERCENT OF NORWAY'S FRESH FRUIT AND HANDLES UNITED FRUIT. BYRNE

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Draft Date:** 26 SEP 1974  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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